

THE

Medical and Agricultural Register.

VOL. I.]

DECEMBER, 1806.

[No. 12.]

M E D I C A L.

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*For the MEDICAL AND AGRICULTURAL REGISTER.*

I AM happy to find that the Register has so extensive a circulation, and hope the time will come when the introduction of it shall be general in all our towns. Considered either in a medical or agricultural point of view, the object of it, I think, is highly important to the people of these New England States; in a medical point of view, because it may instruct them in a knowledge of the means proper to be pursued for the preservation of their own health; in an agricultural point of view, because it is calculated to excite inquiry, and does greatly facilitate and expedite the progress of improvements and discoveries in an art, which employs the hands of the greatest portion of our fellow-citizens, and which is the basis of the wealth and of the glory of our nation. It calls, therefore, for a very liberal and general support. Accordingly I do enlist myself as one of its patrons, and will occasionally make it the vehicle of such observations as circumstances and the times may suggest, provided they should be found worthy a place in its pages.

I shall at this time take notice of a very common case, oftentimes extremely embarrassing to people and to families who generally do not understand the nature of it; it is that

*Of a wounded Artery, and the Measures proper to be pursued, in order to stop the discharge of Blood, till such time as surgical assistance can be had.*

In doing this, I shall be led to speak of wounds generally, and of the measures proper to be pursued for stopping the blood on most occasions.

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In the first place, then, it will be necessary to notice that there are *two systems of blood-vessels*, in every animal; one, by which the blood is conducted from the heart to all the extreme parts of the body, called *arteries*; another, by which the blood is taken up at the extremities (or by which the blood is received from the arteries, and returned back to the heart again,) called *veins*; thus making one grand and complete round or circulation of the blood. Hence it will easily be perceived that the blood in the arteries and in the veins moves in different and in directly opposite directions; in the arteries the blood is in motion *from the heart*, in the veins it is in motion *towards the heart*. The arteries beat, the veins do not; and this beating or pulsation is what is called the *pulse*. Either an artery or a vein, being cut or torn, discharges blood, but *differently*. The blood from a wounded vein flows with an equable, gentle motion; that from an artery, impetuously and by *jerks*. This latter circumstance will always serve to distinguish whether the discharge of blood be from an artery or a vein. To prevent or to suppress the discharge of blood, either from an artery or a vein, nothing is more plain and natural; it is simply to *compress the sides of the wounded vessel together*. But now notice a very important distinction; if an *artery* be wounded, the compression must be made on the side of the wound next *towards the heart*, because, in an artery, the blood is in motion from that way; if a *vein* be wounded, the compression must be made on the *opposite side of the wound*, or on the side farthest from the heart, for a similar reason, because, in the veins, the blood is coming in, or is in motion towards the heart. Wounds in the veins are seldom dangerous, because, unless the vein be very large, the discharge of blood generally stops after a few hours, or in a less time, even if the wound be left to itself. It is not so with wounds in the arteries: the blood is crowded so full into these vessels, so forcibly is it compressed by its surrounding walls, that it is forced out impetuously through the smallest outlet: the strong current of the blood keeps the orifice open; and unless something be done to prevent it, the blood, although the artery should be small, would, in many instances, continue to flow till the life of the animal should be exhausted at the wound.

Now, my friends, let us suppose a man returns from abroad to his family with a large wound in his foot, arm, or leg, bleeding profusely; what in such cases is usually done? Why, in one moment the family are all in confusion. Molly catches the towel, and on that goes upon the wound. The mother descends immediately to the bottom of her chest, and up come the rags, bundle after bundle; these are also piled on, and



Harry is hastened away for the doctor. It may be three or four hours before the surgeon arrives. In the mean time the blood is flowing, and soon begins to run through the rags on to the floor: these are then removed, and clean dry rags are applied; and so, as often as the rags become sopped with blood, they are removed for others that are dry. Oh, astonishing! I hope I shall never see this practice among my patients again.

Know, then, that the whole of this is ill-directed zeal, and is calculated, by keeping the wound warm and covered from the air, to continue the discharge of blood, rather than to check it. Harken then to advice: have a little water and wash away the blood from the wound, and almost at the very first cast of the eye, attending to what has been before observed, you will perceive whether it be an artery or a vein that is wounded. If it be an artery, the blood will be of a bright red, flow impetuously and by *jerks*. In that case, you will feel with the point or end of your finger, and press firmly on the edge or side of the wound, in a direction towards the heart; and when you get upon the artery, provided your pressure be sufficiently firm and steady, so as to compress the sides of the artery together, the blood will stop. Then is your patient safe. You may now command the blood, till such time as the surgeon shall come in; or, having done this, let one of the family roll together a little bunch of rags, large as a walnut or larger, very firmly and hard, and tie them round with a string; then removing your finger and slipping this bolster of rags into the place of it, press it down firmly upon the artery, till you find it stops the blood; after which, secure it in that place by a garter or bandage, passing it a number of times over the bolster or bunch of rags and round the limb: after which you may go about your business, and leave the patient to rest till the surgeon comes in. Should you not succeed in either of these ways, by reason of the artery's lying deep, or from any other circumstance, and should the discharge of blood be great, put the point of your finger directly into the wound. You will feel the current of blood against your finger, which you must follow up to the orifice from whence it flows, and secure it till the surgeon arrives to give the wound its proper dressing. Sometimes the flow of blood is most conveniently stayed by laying the open hands one on one side of the wound and the other on the other side, and pressing the lips or sides of the wound close together, and then retaining them so by a bandage.

Such are the general principles, and such the course of practice, nine cases out of ten, which ought to be pursued



in accidents of this nature. In a dissertation like this, it is impossible to be so minute as to meet every circumstance and case. The general principles, however, being understood, a common understanding, in most instances, will be able to supply what is deficient, and make such variations as circumstances and the nature of particular cases may seem to require.

OBSERVATOR.

*Massachusetts, Dec. 15, 1806.*

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*For the MEDICAL AND AGRICULTURAL REGISTER.*

*On the difference between a Quack and a Physician.*

THE subject upon which I am now entering, I must acknowledge, deserves an abler pen; but if my endeavors should be crowned with success, I should never repent undertaking so arduous a task. I should receive my reward in seeing my fellow-men, relieved from a yoke, which they tamely submit to, although not only their property is at stake, but they are in great danger of their lives, from a set of men styled *Quacks*.

It is truly astonishing to see how they have increased for the last six years. Every public paper is filled with their nostrums; they are not confined to the cure of one disease, but to a dozen or fourteen different ones. In country towns, every tavern and grog-shop are filled with them, with certificates from men who are unacquainted with the nature of the men or the remedies they employ in deceiving mankind. Many people will sooner run the hazard of losing their lives by purchasing *patent* and *quack* medicines, than pay a regular bred Physician his fee, at the same time not thinking that they are paying their money for they know not what, and which goes to support perhaps one of the most illiterate men on earth.

It is a fact that has long been established in my mind, that a Quack will obtain business sooner than a regular bred Physician. The reason is obvious: A Quack, on entering into business, will frequent taverns and grog-shops, for the express purpose of meeting with a set of men as ignorant as himself: it is generally expected that he has some money, and it is likewise expected that he will call for something to drink; from thence he will proceed to wrestling, &c. He will there be called by those with whom he associates a "clever fellow;" for, say they, "he is not ashamed to associate with us; we will employ him, for he will not for his own interest charge as much as Doct. ——— does. If either they or their families are taken sick, he will undoubtedly be sent



for : if his patient should recover under his care, his fame will be proclaimed far and near ; and when he gets once established in business, there is another trait in his character, and which every quack possesses, viz. He will try all that in him lies to run down every person of his own profession. It is astonishing to every reflecting mind, to see to what meanness they will descend, to obtain business.

It is quite different with a regular bred Physician. If he has any modesty about him, you will not hear him founding his own fame of the numberless cures he has performed : If he is temperate, you will not see him lolling and gaping into every tavern and grog-shop : when out of business, you will find him at his books, endeavoring to store his mind with a knowledge of his profession, which he must always consider himself as imperfectly master of.

A SUBSCRIBER.

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*A Caution very useful and necessary to People Chilled with Cold.*

[From the Village's Friend and Physician]

REMEMBER that, whether at work or at play, whenever the body is considerably heated or cooled, a change of that state must not be effected suddenly. A sudden exposure to extreme cold, when much heated, is so well known to be dangerous, as to require to be only mentioned here for the sake of reminding you. But a greater degree of danger is frequently produced by a practice, the ill consequences of which are not so generally known. When extremely chilled by exposure to bleak air, and perhaps to freezing sleet ; when the blood is driven from the external upon the internal and vital parts, the practice is too common to drink freely of heating and spirituous drinks, and to hover close over the fire. The blood expanding by the heat, still farther distends the vessels in which it flows, its course being at the same time rendered more rapid by the strong and heating liquors ; hence it is forced into vessels into which it ought not to flow, and there excites pain and dangerous disease.

In proof of the propriety of this caution respecting the too suddenly applying heat, after exposure to cold, I must inform you, that if any part of the body be so long exposed to the cold that it has become frozen, and, in this frozen state, be brought near to the fire, a *mortification will succeed, and the part will separate and fall off*. But if the heat be most slowly restored, first by rubbing it with snow, then with water, then with a dry cloth or flannel, and lastly by



allowing it to be exposed to warm air, *it will speedily be restored to its healthful state.*

From what I have said, it may be inferred, that similar caution should be employed in restoring the warmth of the whole body, when chilled. The clothing, if wet, should be changed, and either moderate exercise should be persisted in until the heat is again restored, or the approach to the fire should be gradual. If the exposure has been long and the cold severe, it will be best to go to bed, and drink freely of moderately warm barley-water or gruel, by which means heat will be gradually restored, and all dread of disease removed by a free perspiration. He, who wishes to get rid of life in severe agonies, should, when thoroughly wetted and chilled, dry himself by the fire and toss down a glass of spirits. It may be true, that many of you have done this repeatedly, without having sustained any injury; but that is no reason why you should persist in that which a little consideration must show you is certainly dangerous. This you may be assured of, that there would be less chance of injury from allowing the wet clothes to dry on the back, whilst continuing in exercise, than thus suddenly to expose yourself to heat, and to drink of spirituous liquors when chilled with cold.

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### *Hæmoptysis; or, Spitting of Blood.*

DR. ADAMS,

UNDER a full conviction that the theory of hæmoptysis [spitting of blood] as it affects delicate and debilitated subjects, often the approximate cause of an absolute consumption, is erroneous, and the practice resulting from it injurious, I am induced to submit to your inspection the following observations, with the request, that, if deserving, they may find a place in your Register.

The general and increasing prevalence of consumption, with its almost certain fatality, calls loudly for the exertions of every one who has pretensions to the healing art. Leave, then, the theory of the ancients; believe that medicine may still admit of improvement; countenance a theory that may be apparently founded on rational principles; cut off one great source of this most formidable complaint; rid the profession of the stigma too justly attached to it, imbecility; and strike one blow at the root of empiricism.

The cause of hæmoptysis is almost universally attributed to the rupture of a blood-vessel, the consequence of plethora [ful-



ness of the vessels.] The absurdity of the opinion is apparent in almost every instance which occurs, as the pale, delicate and debilitated are invariably the subjects of it, unless produced by external violence. Should a healthy muscular man, in attempting to raise a heavy weight, be attacked with hæmoptysis, no one need hesitate in saying that the discharge issued from a ruptured vessel, and that depletion [bleeding, &c.] would be admissible, and even necessary, to obviate inflammation, that might naturally ensue. But, should a delicate, debilitated subject be attacked, without any ostensible cause, perhaps in the night time, (when there is an entire suspension of voluntary motion) with spitting of blood, would any one attribute it to a ruptured vessel, the consequence of plethora?

Once admitted that the veins are not a continuation of the arteries; that there is space between the extremity of the artery and mouth of the vein; that the blood, after being propelled by the force of the arteries to their extremities, is taken up by the veins by an absorbent power, (and it is proved to a demonstration, "because there is no pulsation in the very beginning of the veins, as is seen by microscopes, which must happen if the blood was carried into them by the actions of the arteries;") and the cause of hæmoptysis is obvious.

"If any branch of the venous system lose its power of absorption, the part swells, and at length bursts and discharges the blood, which the capillaries and other glands circulate through them." Away, then, with the pernicious theory of a "phlogistic diathesis, the necessity of refrigerants, of confinement, bodily rest," and the whole routine of debilitating medicines, the offspring of folly and old women. Substitute in lieu of them, venesection once; "as one great mean of promoting the absorption of any fluid, consists in previously emptying the vessels which are to receive it;" emetics, opium, epispastics, foxglove, chalybeates, the bark, &c. which promote venous absorption without increasing arterial energy; moderate exercise, and a generous diet.

C. D.

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## AGRICULTURAL.

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### *Propagation of the Peach Tree.*

DR. ADAMS,

I HEREBY transmit to you the best mode of propagating the peach tree, and of preventing its early decay.—The kinds most worthy of notice are, as they are usually called, the *Rare-ripe* and the *Melacatoon*. Stones from the best of these



should be chosen and planted in the last of October, on a soil neither very rich or very poor. If the soil be very rich, the bark will crack, and the gum issue out, leaving a place for the embryo of the worm, so destructive to this fruit tree: if the soil be very poor, they will never come to maturity. As soon as there is any appearance of gum near the top of the ground, scrape it away, and immediately after cleared off, take some *bleached ashes* and rub them in with your hand, and fill all the crack or cavity with them, as that prevents the insect or fly from depositing the egg, which produces the worm in the roots of peach trees. I have seen worms an inch long in a small peach tree, in the nursery, of not more than an inch and a half diameter; they are found in the pith, about three or four inches below the surface of the ground. If proper attention be paid to taking away the gum, and filling the cavity with bleached ashes, putting earth round the tree on top of the ashes about three inches deep, few trees would decay till a great age for this kind of tree: they are a short-lived tree at best, and must have considerable attention paid them.

When you use manure for cultivation, take that from the horse-stable. Plough and hoe your peach orchard, until the trees are three years old. Prune them in April, annually, and saw off the limbs and sprouts rather than chop them off. Never neglect your trees in July and August, to see whether the gum is not issuing out, to give the insect an opportunity to deposit its egg or maggot, to form the worm.

I have not yet been so fortunate as to make such a discovery of the insect or fly, which produces the peach tree worm, as to be able to give an account of its progress through all its changes. The worm appears of a whitish color, with circles round the body resembling joints, varied in size on account of the size of the tree; a large tree will have a much larger worm than a young and smaller one. They will gnaw the main root, and soon the part begins to rot and decay. Sometimes smaller roots suit their residence, but the main stem is their object; like the vital part of man, the pith of the tree being injured, soon affects the system at large. As the bark cracks, and the gum issues out, the animalculæ being placed there, the worm will grow; the bark now will close over, and the worm remain there years, if the tree does not wholly die.

WILLIAM MORSE.

Northborough, September, 1806.



*Chicory.*

DR. ADAMS,

HAVING lately noticed in the Domestic Encyclopedia a description of a certain species of Endive called *Chicorium Intibus*, and having mentioned it to some of my neighbors, they appear extremely anxious to get some of the seed, in order to prove its utility. I have lately seen a proof (in deed as well as word) of your regard for the improvement of agriculture. This induces me to apply to you for a sufficient quantity to make an experiment. Whether there is any of the kind in America is unknown to me; it appears however that it is made great use of in Europe, and might be obtained with a little trouble. Should it produce equal to the account given in the above named book, its value in this cold country would be incalculable. By complying with the above request, you will greatly oblige the farmers in Buxton, and perhaps many more.

A CUSTOMER.

Buxton, October 26, 1806.

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*Remarks.* The *Chicorium Intibus* (Chicory) another name for which is *Succory* (See vol. v. page 63, of the Domest. Encyc.) is a plant growing in this country. A gentleman in Boston received some of the seed, some time since from Europe, and had it sown on his farm in the vicinity of the town. It caught readily, and grew luxuriantly; it will afford a number of crops in a year; horses feed on it well while green; but it is not good for any thing to make into hay. The opinion of this gentleman is, that it may answer well in England which is a *foiling*\* country; but that the cultivation of it cannot be an object with the American farmer, and that if introduced, there would be danger of its rooting out his better grasses.



ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF WORN-OUT LAND.

*By deep Trench and frequent Ploughing.*

*Communicated to "Blockley and Merriam Society, for promoting Agriculture and Rural Economy."*—By RICHARD PETERS, Esq. President of the said Society.

WHEN I took the liberty of pointing out defects in our mode of farming, I promised to use my endeavors to suggest remedies for evils, which I wish prevailed only in our neighborhood.

\* In England, horses, &c. are fed in stables with green fodder, cut and brought in from the field, and this is what is understood by *foiling*.



Exceptions are happily to be met with ; but the style of agriculture, under similar circumstances, is too much alike every where. It is the more unfortunate, as most of the inhabitants of exhausted lands, seem to be the least ingenious and industrious, in calling to their assistance system and experiment, although they stand the most in need of them. It would seem, that, as to them, the old adage, "Necessity is the mother of invention," could not apply. Their spirits, and consequently their exertions, seem to fail them, and to be exhausted, in proportion to the degrees of impoverishment attending their soil. Even the industrious sow much and reap little. As long as those, who possess it, can clear a piece of new land, they apply themselves to that, and abandon the greater part of the residue of their farms to what they deem unconquerable poverty. If you inquire the reasons of their negligence, they will assign any but the true one—"They have not stock enough to make manure ; they have not strength enough to work much land, and must therefore work that which yields the most ; they have not money to purchase the means of re-invigorating their farms."

The fact is, that their not making the necessary and proper application of their stock and strength is the cause of the latter misfortune, which includes the rest. If their stock be small, it requires the more attention to produce profit ; and if their strength be not great enough for two acres, let it be applied effectually to one. They will find their affairs in this case mend as by magic. Their expenses will be less, and of course their profits greater. Their labor will have a limited, and consequently, a practical object. Savings in wear and tear of implements, of seed, of expense in wages, of expenditure to mechanics, with all the consequences of cultivating a small portion of land well, will immediately follow. They will not fail in the accomplishment of their object ; but they will cease to bring themselves in debt by misapplied endeavors to avoid it. They will find, too, their one acre, well cultivated, more productive than many, in the old routine of mismanagement. The difference between a highly improved acre, and one even beyond mediocrity, is greater, than at first view, it would appear to be. In England, the proportion between land producing five quarters, and that bringing three quarters per acre, is often more than two to one ; yet the produce is not double. But after labor and expense, which are the same in both, the excess is profit ; and the tenants, at the highest rents, clear the most money, and become rich, while it frequently happens that the others become bankrupts.

These observations are the most applicable to those, who, like ourselves, have their lots cast in a country exhausted by



bad tillage. With good and systematic culture, our situation would have been very different. Under good management, our lands would still have continued fertile and we should not possess them in their present miserable state. The following remarks are intended to elucidate and confirm my observations on the "defects in our mode of tillage."

One would think that the bare recital of the common mode of preparation for wheat, would sufficiently point out the evil and the remedy.

In general, the sod is turned or broken up in the spring, at the most four, but more frequently less than three inches deep. The sod is composed of a small proportion of grass-roots. The roots of permanent and noxious weeds occupy the rest. The seeds of these weeds, both annual and perennial, have been dropping for years, ready to vegetate with the first stirring of the earth. In this wretched situation it is ploughed most wretchedly, because superficially, and left without harrowing two or three months. It is then crossed; at the season of sowing, harrowed; the seed is then plowed in, and thus committed to this miserable mass of clods, unbroken in the whole, or in part. In this mass are contained undecayed roots of weeds and vegetating blue and other unconquered fibrous grasses, which, unlike tap-rooted grasses, such as clover, are pests, and not assistants to grain. The seed is then left to take its chance. A crop of indian corn, a great exhauster, is often taken in the season of sowing the grain.

This is a true statement of the general practice. Now can it be supposed, that a plant, such as wheat, (which will penetrate three feet, if the soil permit, and whose horizontal roots have been measured ten feet) will perfect itself in a depth of three or four inches, and in a collection of clods, tussocks of weed roots, and increasing mares of blue grass, which will prevent the extension of its roots and fibres?

Indolence makes large demands upon ingenuity, to furnish it with excuses. Some plausible reasons are brought forward to support every bad practice. I have heard it alleged in conversation, and have met with a treatise on St Foin (the most extensive rooted vegetable) that "plants should not extend their roots too far, or they will spend themselves in root." As if nature was not too wise to suffer an injurious disproportion in the parts of her productions. Roots are to vegetables (as in that treatise it is observed) what the intestines and stomach are to animals. The more and the longer these are, being always proportioned to the body of which they are parts, the more and the greater the supplies of nourishment received and communicated.



The remedies I will recommend for the evils I have enumerated, are, *deep trench, and frequent ploughings*. I have had much experience of the good effects of these on lands, as much impoverished as any in this country. I have therefore, no occasion for authorities to satisfy myself: but I will quote one instance among many which might be produced. The celebrated Chateaucieux, a philosophic and an attentive cultivator, selected a piece of ground, from which he had taken the soil three feet deep, leaving only a sterile whiteish clay. By digging and stirring this spot, he brought it in three years to bear wheat without manure, as large and as fine as any his garden could produce. This shews that earth supposed barren, can be made by stirring, separating its parts, and exposure to the influences of the air, as productive as the original surface. It fully answers the objection to deep and trench ploughing, of turning up barren earth; for most earth may be made thus fertile.

Mills also affords instances in proof, from the practice of the gardeners about London. They trench their grounds, when they begin to be exhausted, three feet deep, turning the original surface to the bottom.

(To be concluded in our next.)

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## MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

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### ARTICLE XXIX.

#### *Bills of Mortality.*

A NUMBER of bills of mortality have been received, to which we shall hardly be able to do justice, for want of room. The *particularity* of these and similar bills, (bills embracing a series of years back) together with the topographical description of places, are rather tedious to many of our readers, and are complained of by some. We do therefore relinquish our purposes respecting such bills; but, in no degree as it respects a *yearly bill of mortality*, for this or any of the other States. We are therefore extremely anxious, still, that our solicitations expressed in a note addressed to Clergymen, in the first No. of the Register, should be *seasonably* complied with in their full extent.

From bills before us we are enabled to give the following information.



|             | No. of Inhab. | Deaths.                                     |
|-------------|---------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Deerfield,  | 1531*         | 266 in 14 years, ending with the year 1805. |
| Warwick,    | 1233          | 78 — 5 years.                               |
| Ashburnham, | 995           | 336 — 37 years.                             |
| Princeton,  | 1021          | 65 — 4 years.                               |

*Deerfield.* Of this number (266,) 155 were under 10 years of age; 4 were upwards of 90 years.

*Warwick.* The dysentary was epidemical in this place in the autumns of 1802 and 1805, of which 19 of the above number (78) died; of consumption, only 6. Dysentary, for the 5 last years, has been much more mortal in this place than any other disorder. Warwick is situated seven miles east of Connecticut river; near the centre of the town is a mountain of 650 feet elevation; considerable quantities of iron ore are found in this town, of an excellent quality.

*Ashburnham.* Above half of the above number (336) died under 5 years of age. Ashburnham is on the height of land between Connecticut and Merimack rivers. No mortal sickness, except canker-rash and dysentary, has ever prevailed in this place; and these not to any great degree.

*Princeton.* Dysentary was epidemical in this place, in the autumn of 1805, of which, in the last 4 years, 18 have died; 4 only have died of consumption. The average age of those who have died, deducting premature births, is twenty-seven years and three months. The births in 1804, were 36; in 1805, they were 42.

ARTICLE XXVII.

*Result of Meteorological and ther Observations, for November, 1806; made at DEERFIELD, WARWICK, PORTSMOUTH, SMITHFIELD, (R. I.) HARTFORD, (Conn.) and BOSTON.*

| Nov. 1806. | Mean degs.<br>at sun-rise. | Mean degs.<br>at 2 P. M. | Mean degree<br>of the month. | Greatest heat<br>in the month. | Least heat in<br>the month. | Prevailing<br>winds. | Marriages. | Births. | Deaths. |
|------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|------------|---------|---------|
| Deerfield  | 32½                        | 44½                      | 38½                          | 9th day. 58°                   | 19 & 20 21°                 | N.                   |            |         | 1       |
| Warwick    | 30½                        | 43½                      | 36½                          | 9 67                           | 20 18                       | N. W. 17 days        | 1          | 1       | 1       |
| Portsmouth | 31½                        | 45½                      | 35                           | 9 60                           | 22 27                       | N. E.                |            |         |         |
| Smithfield | 34½                        | 48½                      | 40                           | 9 59                           | 4 20                        | N. W.                |            |         |         |
| Hartford   | 32½                        | 47½                      | 40                           | 9 62                           | 20 17                       | N. & N. W.           |            |         |         |
| Boston     | 27½                        | 47                       | 42½                          | 9 61                           | 4 27                        | N. W.                |            |         |         |

\* As taken by the census, 1800.



## WEATHER.

|                                                                   |                 |       |  |                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------|--|----------------------------------------|
| 1st day                                                           |                 |       |  | 16—Sund. snow (in water 0,15†) 6,00*   |
| 2 } Sund.                                                         |                 |       |  | 17 } fair and cloudy alternately ;     |
| 3 } fair                                                          | ☾ last quarter. |       |  | 18 } squalls of snow, ☽ first quarter. |
| 4 } and                                                           |                 |       |  | 19 } fair and pleasant.                |
| 5 } pleasant                                                      |                 |       |  | 20 }                                   |
| 6— fair ; sprink. of rain at night                                |                 |       |  | 21— fair, cloudy, sprink. of rain      |
| 7— rain                                                           | 0,25†           | 2,00* |  | 22 } fair, some clouds                 |
| 8— showers                                                        |                 | 1,50* |  | 23 } Sund. Smithf. a little rain 0,20† |
| 9 } Sund. flying clouds, high winds,                              |                 |       |  | 24— snow and rain 2,00*                |
| 10 } showers in some places. new moon                             |                 |       |  | 25— fair Full moon.                    |
| 11— fair                                                          |                 |       |  | 26— cloudy, a little rain 0,10†        |
| 12— moderate rain                                                 | 0,20†           | 0,10* |  | 27— cloudy, snow 9,05†                 |
| 13 } fair                                                         |                 |       |  | 28— cloudy, misty                      |
| 14 } fair                                                         |                 |       |  | 29— cloudy, thick mist 0,30*           |
| 15— snow, hail, rain,                                             | 0,25†           |       |  | 30— rain.                              |
| Depth of water fallen in rain—Warwick 4,10 inches, snow 6 inches. |                 |       |  |                                        |
| in snow and rain—Smithfield 1,55 inches.                          |                 |       |  |                                        |

*Smithfield, November 30, 1806.*

The season of vegetation being past, nature seems to present but little for observation except meteors, vapors, clouds and storms.

We have had much cloudy disagreeable weather this month ; but no very severe storms. The most considerable storm here, commenced on the 15th inst. in the afternoon, with moderate rain and wind at east, which shifted to the north in the night, when we had hail followed by snow, which continued moderately during the next day and night, with a little snow followed by a thick mist on the following day and night. State of health, about the same as last month ; there being a continuance of similar complaints ; though perhaps not an increase.

A SMITHFIELD SUBSCRIBER.

*Hartford, November 30, 1806.*

The 15th and 16th a storm of rain and snow ; snow fell to a considerable depth in some places. Thunder shower on the night following the 7th. A heavy rain the 26th and 27th.

*Deerfield, November 30, 1806.*

*Remarks.* The month has been dry, springs continue low : the little snow which has fallen has soon melted, and the ground is still bare, except in the hilly parts of the country.

No uncommon sickness has prevailed this month : the season is as healthy as usual.

If the following, taken from the European Magazine for 1805, does not offer any pecuniary advantage to the butcher, it would

\* Warwick.

† Smithfield.



afford consolation to the humane to see practised a method which so suddenly suspends the vital functions, in slaughtering cattle.

"The practice of *slaughtering cattle* by puncturing the *medulla spinalis*, or as it is now called, *pithing cattle*, is extending through all parts of the kingdom (Great Britain) by the perseverance of the Board of Agriculture. The want of skill in the operation, and the prejudices arising from established customs, we are sorry to observe, however, render the system less general than it should be. It is perfectly ascertained that the spinal marrow may be divided without immediate death, should the wound be inflicted *below* the origin of the nerves that supply the diaphragm, and allow the animal the power of respiration; but if the puncture is made into the cavity of the skull, so as to divide the medullary substance *above* the origin of these nerves, death is instantaneous, and without the least apparent sensation of pain. If a line be drawn across the head from the root of each ear (about an inch and a half from the horns) the center of this line is the spot in which the puncture should be made, and an awl or a common penknife is as good an instrument as can be used."

E. HOYT.

N. B. We have to acknowledge the favor of a number of valuable communications, which were received too late for this No. they will appear in our next,

## A brief INDEX to the REGISTER for the year 1806.

[Some of our readers have expressed a wish that a short Index to the Register might be given at the end of the first year: we are disposed to gratify them; in doing which, it is presumed, we shall not disoblige others.]

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